

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR: Tony M. Pearce

DOCKET: 5050 P

TITLE: Cushions with Non-Intersecting Columnar Elastomeric Members
Exhibiting Compression Instability

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled above and filed herewith. I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a).

I hereby appoint Daniel P. McCarthy (Reg. No. 36,600), Lloyd W. Sadler (Reg. No. 40,154), David C. Romney (Reg. No. 24,266), Jon C. Christiansen (Reg. No. 30,039), James L. Sonntag (Reg. No. 30,224) and Vanessa B. Pierce (Reg. No. 42,274) as my representatives and attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. All communications should be directed to Mr. McCarthy at the following address or telephone number:

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I hereby claim priority under 35 USC 119 as recited below:

This patent application is a continuation-in-part patent application of serial no. 09/303,979 filed on May 3, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. _____, which is a continuation-in-part patent application of serial no. 08/968,750 filed on August 13, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,026,527, which is a continuation-in-part patent application of serial no. 08/601,374 filed on February 14, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,749,111 and which is a continuation in part of serial no. 08/783,413 filed on January 10, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,994,450, which claims priority to U.S. provisional patent application serial no. 60/021,019 filed on July 1, 1996, and priority is claimed to each of the foregoing.

Priority is also claimed to U.S. provisional patent application no. 60/226,726 filed on August 18, 2000.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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Date: 8/16/01